

MSK-5013
2 July 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, FBIS

THROUGH : Chief, Operations Group

SUBJECT : Monthly Report - Seoul Bureau - June 1985

I. OPERATIONS

A. Monitorial/Editorial

1. The Bureau continued to devote close attention to South Korean coverage in June, tracing the slow change in the political pot from simmer to boil. Editors informed Embassy officials throughout the month of ROK official and unofficial reaction to the student occupation of the USIS library in May. Among items brought to the attention of appropriate Embassy officials were several 20 June ROK press items noting criticism by the ruling DJP of continued Embassy contacts with the student occupiers, and 23 June reports that the ROK Government planned to "prevent" U.S. Embassy officials from meeting with the students.

2. The student-government confrontation in the South took a major turn on 29 June when the government abruptly shifted its 2-year policy of campus autonomy and entered the campuses of nine universities. Members of the Sammin Struggle Group, the group that orchestrated the USIS library occupation, were among those arrested. The Bureau filed voluminous material on the arrests, as well as criticism of the policy shift toward the campuses by the opposition New Korea Democratic Party, which called for a special session of the National Assembly to discuss the issue.

3. Another subject dominating Bureau coverage of the Korean peninsula during the month was the on-going series of talks and meetings between North and South Korea. At economic talks at Panmunjom on 20 June the two sides approved a draft agreement on a joint North-South economic committee and scheduled another meeting for September. Negotiations on holding North-South parliamentary talks continued throughout the month, and despite hostile DPRK treatment of a ROK proposal on a goal for such talks, the two sides agreed to hold preliminary contacts for the talks in July, with the date of the talks still not settled. As usual with these North-South contacts, all discussions were heavily reported in the media of the two sides and covered by the Bureau, with various Embassy components using Bureau material in preparation of cables.

4. On the 24th, Pyongyang devoted major media coverage to a NODONG SINMUN Commentator's Article on cross-recognition of the two Koreas by the major powers, making clear its opposition to the U.S.-backed plan. Seoul filed text of the article and a comparison expeditiously, and AG used the item as the basis of a TRENDS piece.

5. The Bureau's five Chinese monitors translated over 176,000 words in June. This is a record for the Chinese Unit, some 20,000 words more than the previous high in May 1984.

B. Communications

Unidentified communications problems with the Bureau's Primary Mode II circuit slowed delivery time of a number of incoming and outgoing items several times early in the month, causing the Bureau to switch to back-up Mode V for several days.

C. Technical

STAT At the suggestion of Okinawa Bureau Engineer [redacted] the Bureau developed a new rack design for the equipment in the main radio room to replace the present enclosed cabinets. The aim is to dissipate the heat generated by the units more efficiently and to save some much-needed space. The redesign plan has been approved [redacted] and actual work will begin as soon as the necessary racks arrive from the States.

II. ADMINISTRATION

Personnel

STAT 1. New staff editors [redacted] arrived during the month. [redacted] They will replace STAT Senior Editor [redacted] and Deputy Chief [redacted] who will depart for STAT reassignment in Washington during July.

STAT 2. Following meetings of the Bureau's Evaluation and Promotions Subpanel in May, an awards ceremony was held in the Bureau on the 27th. Monitors [redacted] and [redacted] Associate Editor [redacted] Technician [redacted] and Communicator [redacted] received promotions, and Monitors [redacted] and [redacted] received Quality Step Increases in recognition of superior performance.

STAT 3. During the same ceremony, Senior Communicator [redacted] was presented a service pin marking 25 years of service with the U.S. Government. STAT [redacted] began working for the Embassy in 1959, and transferred to FBIS in 1979.

III. VISITS

The Bureau Chief participated in an Embassy briefing on the 14th for Major General Leroy Suddath, commander of the 1st Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. General Suddath was in Seoul on an orientation tour of U.S. military facilities in the Far East.

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[Redacted]
Chief, Seoul Bureau

Attachment
Monthly Production Report

cc: Chief, Hong Kong Bureau
Acting Chief, Okinawa Bureau

SEOUL BUREAU PRODUCTION REPORT FOR June 1985I. TOTAL FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	678,790		
TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH:	145,230		
TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH:	1,615		
	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS

II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE:
(minutes or issues per week)

13,265	5,850	104
min	min	issues

III. OUTPUT FROM ALL SOURCES:
(publishable words per month)

CHINA (PRC)

Beijing in	
Korean to Korea	4,450
Beijing City Service in	
Mandarin	2,400
Changchun Jilin Provincial Service in	
Mandarin	8,900
Harbin Heilongjiang Provincial Service in	
Mandarin	8,720
Hohhot Nei Monggol Regional Service in	
Mandarin	4,950
Jinan Shandong Provincial Service in	
Mandarin	9,490
Shenyang Liaoning Provincial Service in	
Mandarin	9,340
Shijiazhuang Hebei Provincial Service in	
Mandarin	1,100
Tianjin City Service in	
Mandarin	2,550
Beijing BEIJING RIBAO in	
Chinese	5,640
Changchun JILIN RIBAO in	
Chinese	8,400
Harbin HEILONGJIANG RIBAO in	
Chinese	57,850
Hohhot NEIMENGGU RIBAO in	
Chinese	-0-
Jinan DAZHONG RIBAO in	
Chinese	23,300
Shenyang LIAONING RIBAO IN	
Chinese	800
Shijiazhuang HEBEI RIBAO in	
Chinese	24,600
Tianjin TIANJIN RIBAO IN	
Chinese	8,050
 CLANDESTINE	
(Clandestine) Voice of the Revolutionary	
Party for Reunification in	
Korean to South Korea	35,350

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
KOREA (NORTH)			
Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean	156,770		
Pyongyang KCNA in English		147,280	
Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean			8,450
KOREA (SOUTH)			
Seoul Domestic Service in Korean	5,220		
Seoul YONHAP in English		26,920	
Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean			4,250
Seoul CHUANGANG ILBO in Korean			3,100
Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean			3,920
Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean			3,400
Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean			400
Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English			46,420
Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English			38,870
Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean			10,000
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS			
Moscow in Korean to Korea	7,900		